

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 12 are amended, and claims 17-32 are added. Support for the amendments to the claims 1 and 12 and for the new claims can be found at least in Figs. 7 and 9, and the corresponding description in the specification. No new matter is added.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiners Pachol and Haskins at the interview held July 22, 2009, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,144,777 to Tada et al. (hereinafter "Tada") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,978,614 to Takeuchi, further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,646,768 to Andersen et al. (hereinafter "Andersen"); and claims 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Tada in view of Andersen. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the personal interview, none of the applied references teaches or would have rendered obvious a copying apparatus including a control section that causes the image formation section to form images of two originals read by the image read section on one side of one recording medium in a predetermined order and in a predetermined layout based on a plurality of conditions, as recited in independent claim 1; and a method of operating a copying apparatus including a forming step that forms images of two originals read by the reading step on one side of one recording medium in a predetermined order and in a predetermined layout based on a plurality of conditions, as recited in independent claim 12.

The Office Action asserts that Tada discloses a control section that causes an image formation section to form the images of a plurality of originals read by the image read section

on one side of one recording medium and in a predetermined layout based on the detection result of the detection section and the specification of the image orientation specifying section at col. 5, lines 52-55, wherein Tada teaches the image orientation specifying section and Andersen teaches the detection section; and asserts that Tada discloses a step of forming the images of a plurality of originals read by the reading step on one side of the recording medium and a predetermined layout based on the detection result and the specification at Fig. 1, element 70, col. 3, lines 52-53, and col. 5, lines 52-55, wherein Tada teaches the specification and Andersen teaches the detection result. However, neither Tada nor Andersen teaches nor would have rendered obvious a control section and a forming step based on the plurality of conditions as recited in independent claim 1, and as recited in independent claim 12, respectively.

Further, Takeuchi does not remedy the above-described deficiencies.

Thus, for at least these reasons, independent claims 1 and 12 are patentable over the applied references. Further, claims 2-11 and 13-16, which respectively depend from independent claims 1 and 12, are also patentable over the applied references for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features these claims recite.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is thus respectfully requested.

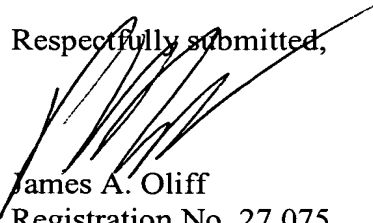
Further, new independent claims 17 and 28 are also patentable over the applied references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 12, as well as for the additional features they recite. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 17 and 28, and claims 18-27 and 29-32 respectively depending therefrom, are also patentable over the applied references.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Patrick T. Muffo
Registration No. 60,342

JAO:RBI/ptm

Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Request for Continued Examination
Amendment Transmittal

Date: July 31, 2009

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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